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NOTES AND QUERIES.

Notes.

Letters of John Blakey to Jesse Sharpless, Harness Maker of Chester County and Later Philadelphia.

Concord, March 30th: 1779.

My little Boy Jes—
Our well has more water in it than usual, no thanks to you, & I have less Mony in my Pocket than heretofore, thanks to the Congress. The other day Old Pocaty Moonshine or Old Blue-Skin died, he liv'd 28 years a Bachelor, 28 years a Married Drone, & 28 years a widower, and by the time he is 28 years in Purgatory, & 28 years with old Scratch, and 28 years in Paradise, he will be 168 years, Old, and very tuff. Do you want any more randum stuff &c. If you are a good Whig, you may Drink the following Toasts

1 Confusion to the Enemies of America, foreign & domestick.
2 Freedom and Independence.
3 A good peace or a New War.
4 Off with every mask that hides a Traitor.
5 May Traid, Commarce, & Religion flurrish.
6 May America ever oppose bad measures & applaud good ones.

A definition of a Whig.

A Whig was a party Name in the last Reigns given to those who maintained, that Liberty was the Birthright of every man, & that Kings being Created for the good of the People, and the preservation of Liberty, could not have a Divine Right to become Tyrants, or to subvert that Constitution they had sworn to protect.

A Tory is one that adheres to the Doctrine of passive Obedience & Nonresistance. So if Old Nick Reigns they are his humble Servants & must Obay. Hatefull in name & odious in Nature

Little Jes gives his love to his name sake—I could say more—says

J. B.

Addressed to Jesse Sharples, Saddlar, In East Bradford, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Concord, April ; 1782.

Heaven Bless you my dear Jes—We have a large piece of Linen come from the Weavers, but not fine enough for you, so you need not depend upon Concord for Shirts, On the 8th of this Instant my little Cousin was brought to Bed, and had two little She Quakers, but not likeing the smell of Toryism, they withdrew in about 5 or 6 hours, are now above the Clouds, and if there is any Room in Heaven for Quakers, no doubt they are there before this time, Please to give my best Complements to Mr. Polk and his good Lady & Family. I Remain no more, nor no less, than your Very humble Servant,

John Blakey.

☞ Please to give my love to the Congress, & all friends. When I was in Philadelphia the other day, I seen a piece of Linen at Caleb Attmores as white as a Crud, and fine enough for a Horse Taylor at 4/6 yard. My little Cousin is like to doe bravely, we all join in love to you, but mine is without Variation or end, says your most affectionate & unalterable friend.

John Blakey.

Addressed to Mr. Jesse Sharples, Horse Taylor, In Philadelphia.